

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) An electronic apparatus having one or more functions on which use limitations can be imposed, comprising

~~a function executing unit for executing~~ including:

a processor operable to execute said one or more functions;

~~storage means for storing the~~ operable to store contents of use limitations for said one or more functions; and

~~limiting means for storing,~~ the processor being operable to reference a representation of said contents of use limitations stored in said storage to determine said the contents of use limitations for said one or more functions, and being operable to execute said one or more functions only as permitted by said contents of use limitations; , derived from input use permitting key information, in said storage means and for referencing the contents of use limitations stored in said storage means to limit a function execution in said function executing unit and

an infrared light receiving unit operable to receive use-permitting key information transmitted by infrared communication, wherein said contents of use limitations are derived from said use-permitting key information.

2. (currently amended) The electronic apparatus according to claim 1 wherein ~~the said~~ contents of use limitations for said functions are represent at least one of a number of days said one or more functions are permitted to be executed, or a number of times of use allowed for said one or more functions are permitted to be executed, use or a time period allowed for use in which said one or more functions are permitted to be executed.

3. (currently amended) The electronic apparatus according to claim 2 further comprising

a second storage means for storing operable to record at least one of: the number of days said one or more functions has been executed, or the number of times said one or more functions has been used in said function executing unit; said controlling means when requested to execute the said one or more functions in said function executing unit referencing the contents of use limitations stored in said storage means and executed by said processor, wherein said processor is operable to reference said number of days or times of use stored in said second storage means to control the function execution in said function executing unit to determine at least one of said number of days or said number of times to control execution of said one or more functions.

4. (currently amended) The electronic apparatus according to claim 1 further comprising

an operating input unit for inputting said operable to receive operator input representing second use-permitting key information supplied from a source of use permission, wherein said contents of use limitations are derived from said second use-permitting key information.

5. (currently amended) The electronic apparatus according to claim 1 further comprising

a bar code readout unit operable to read for reading said second use-permitting key information, printed as a bar code, supplied from a source of use permission, wherein said contents of use limitations are derived from said second use-permitting key information.

6. (canceled)

7. (currently amended) The electronic apparatus according to claim 1 ~~further comprising~~

~~receiving means for receiving said~~, wherein said infrared light receiving unit is operable to receive use-permitting key information transmitted from a source of use permission over a network.

8. (currently amended)

An electronic apparatus according to claim 1, having one or more functions on which use limitations can be imposed, comprising

~~a function executing unit for executing said one or more functions,~~

~~storage means for storing the contents of use limitations for said function(s),~~

~~transmitting means for transmitting~~

wherein said electronic apparatus is operable to transmit identifying information for identifying the electronic apparatus and a request for permission for using the electronic apparatus over a network to a server of a source of use permission,

~~receiving means for receiving the use-permitting key information transmitted from said server responsive to said request for using the electronic apparatus, and~~

~~controlling means for storing the contents of use limitations for said one or more functions, derived from input use-permitting key information, received by said receiving means, and for referencing the contents of use limitations stored in said storage means to limit function execution in said function executing unit.~~

9. (canceled)

10. (currently amended) The electronic apparatus according to claim-98 further comprising

a second storage means for storing operable to store the number of days or times said one or more functions has been used in said function executing unit, wherein +

said controlling means processor when requested to execute the said one or more functions in said function executing unit referencing references the contents of use limitations stored in said storage means and said information representing at least one of the number of days or the number of times of use of said one or more functions, said information being stored in said second storage, means to control the function execution in said function executing unit execution of said one or more functions.

Claims 11-29. (canceled)

30. (new) A system, comprising:

a mobile terminal having a wireless communication function and an infrared ray communication function, the mobile terminal operable to acquire use-permitting key information from a source of use permission; and

an electronic apparatus having one or more functions on which use limitations can be imposed, including:

a processor operable to execute said one or more functions;

storage operable to store contents of use limitations for said one or more functions, the processor being operable to reference a representation of said contents of use limitations stored in said storage to determine said contents of use limitations for said one or more functions, and being operable to execute said one or more functions only as permitted by said contents of use limitations; and

an infrared light receiving unit operable to receive said use-permitting key information transmitted by infrared communication from the mobile terminal, wherein said contents of use limitations are derived from said use-permitting key information.